

SECCS Third Edition

The State Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (SECCS) Project has been crossing the state to conduct focus groups and do interviews with individuals and groups involved in delivering services for children birth to five years old. In addition, data sets are being collected to contribute to the compilation of information on outcomes for young children in California. Thanks to the members of I CARE (Infant, Childhood and Relationship Enrichment), the California First Five Executive Directors and the California State Medi-Cal Medical Directors for allowing SECCS to join their meetings and generate information that will be valuable contributions to the Needs Assessment. In the next few months, we will be conducting focus groups with the California Department of Education Collaboration Advisory Committee, Kern County Network for Children, San Benito First Five staff, Children's Roundtable, and Los Angeles Early Identification and Intervention. If you know of additional programs that are interested in presentations and/or participating in focus groups, please contact Wendy Wayne at wewayne@kern.org or by calling 661 204-8840.

By the end of November, the Steering Committee for this project will be announced. The Winter and Spring of 2005 will be spent analyzing data and beginning the Strategic Planning process. In December 2004, a team will travel to Washington, D.C. to meet with SECCS projects from throughout the country. It will be a terrific time to partner and share.

If you are **not** interested in receiving future updates from the SECCS project, please email me back and I will remove your name. On the other hand, if you are interested in adding additional folks you think would benefit from the updates, please let me know and I will add their names. Your comments and suggestions are appreciated. Please feel free to correspond with me by email wewayne@kern.org or telephone 916 552-8742 or 661 204-8840.

Visit the SECCS website at <http://www.mch.dhs.ca.gov/programs/seccs/seccsfacts.htm>

Below is a description of the third of many programs that demonstrate Best Practices of Early Childhood Comprehensive Services in California:

THE THIRD EXCITING PROJECT TO HIGHLIGHT, IN THE FIELD OF EARLY CHILDHOOD COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES, IS ...

LEADS (LIMITLESS EARLY ACCESS AND DELIVERY SYSTEM). . .

Based in the Central Valley at the Children's Services Network.

Their goal is to provide support for licensed child care providers to assist them in providing high quality care for children who have special needs.

They provide:

- Support to all licensed child care providers to serve children with special needs, birth to twelve in Fresno County through workshops in the community and on sight Technical Assistance.
- Initial screening of children, birth to twelve, for possible delays. Parents and providers use the ASQ (Ages and Stages Questionnaire) which is then reviewed by the SNIT (Special Needs Inclusion Team) members.
- Consultation, collaboration, and implementation of appropriate activities and strategies with the provider
- Professional development of providers through workshops, in-service training, conferences and on-site support
- Referrals to other agencies and/or specialists, including local pediatricians, physical therapists, psychiatrists, family therapists, school districts, the Exceptional Parents Unit and the Central Valley Regional Center.
- Collaboration with providers to develop plans to enhance services to children with special needs.
- Referral to Exceptional Parents Unlimited for parents of children with special needs
- On site consultation for the provider with the inclusion process so that more children with special needs can be served in natural child care settings

Special Needs Inclusion Team can be reached at (559) 456-1100 X123